

in statute. Such a system should be independent of the Justice Department. This is not a new concept—in fact, I first introduced legislation to take this step back in 1982. I continue to believe that an Article I court would allow for more efficient and streamline consideration of immigration claims with enhanced confidence by aliens and practitioners in the fairness and independence of the process.

The bill introduced today provides a solid framework on which to build debate on this important and far-reaching reform. I look forward to working with all interested parties in fine-tuning and further developing this proposal where necessary and enacting this much needed reform. It is my hope to see real progress made on this matter and I urge my colleagues to support the United States Immigration Court Act of 1998.

HONORING MEMBERS OF THE LION 4 UNIT OF WORLD WAR II

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 22, 1998

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a little-known, but immensely significant, group that valiantly served our country in World War II. This heroic group of individuals, members of the "Lion 4" unit, served to supply and repair the many needs of the huge Navy presence in the Pacific theater. This unit, along with the other brave soldiers who fought the war in the Pacific, helped us defeat the Japanese and end the war months earlier than expected. We shall never forget the accomplishments of these men, some of America's true heroes.

The Lion 4 unit landed on the Admiralty Islands north of New Guinea, with the daunting task of having to build a base equal to Pearl Harbor in size and function, with room to anchor over 400 ships. They landed on February 29, 1944, and by March 10, a severely damaged airfield was operational, providing pivotal air support during the war. Amazingly, at least 36 major units were operational by July, merely five months after the Lion 4 had first landed! These men had almost single-handedly created the largest and most important naval and air base in the Pacific Theatre. This in spite of knee-deep mud, torrential rainfall, 120 degree temperatures, malaria, and the constant risk of death from the ongoing war around them. They built this base so that the fighting troops could get supplies and repairs, and the time saved, in addition to the Lion 4's service, served to cut short the war and break the back of the Japanese forces.

On behalf of the men and women of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we proudly honor these men for their service to our country. The following men, members of Lion Four/ Navy 3205 Association, are among the servicemen who helped keep our country free and proud:

Marlon Adrian, Albert Aguero, Edwin Anguiski, Robert Archer, Ford Basel, Leonard Bearce, Ralph Benavidez, S.Q. Berry, Donald Berry, Henry J. Bozenski, Donald Bratt, Robert Bridges, Robert Bridges, George Briggs, Ernest Brown, Harold Brown, Williams Burg, Lenard Callaway, Loran Cambell, Pat Cannavino, Harold Cazaubon, Morris J. Coe,

Marion Cook, George Crosley, Jesse Daniels, Carrol Day, Fred Defield, Martin Delozier, John Dick, Augustine DiSano, Malone Downes, Irvine Downs, Earl Dressen, Robert Dunn, Frank Durbin, James Eby, Carl Eitel, Max Ellis, Howard Espenson, Joseph Frendling, D.P. Garner, Shelton Gautreaux, William Gaydos, George Gerberding, John Geschrey, John Glaser, Charles Granger, Chester Grobschmidt, Sam Guerrero, Frank Halder, E. Lee Hall, Garry Hanson, Robert Hartigan, Robert Harwood, Thomas Hatcher, Ralph Hayes, George Haymes, James Heand, Robert Hecke, Charles Heiss, Forrest Herron, Jr., John Herzog, Preston Hoalst, Frank Hogan, Charles Hoggett, Douglas Hood, Kenneth Hoyt, William Hutchison, Joe Jacob, Clifford James, James Jensen, Farris Jobe, Hal Johnson, Sylvester Kapoclus, James Kauffman, Eugene Kennedy, Chester Kershner, Andrew Kube, Herman Kuhns, Robert Laflame, Marshall Leach, Bernard Lease, Marvin Leasure, Larry Leonard, Arthur Ludwig, Daniel Lukach, Paul Mahan, Charles Majewski, Perry Martin, Ken Mathews, William Maxwell, Charles McCabe, Eugene McCardell, Joseph Melillo, Jake Miller, Thomas Miller, Frank Moesher, Lawrence Moon, Dale Mulholand, Miles Mutchler, Evan Nardone, Glen Nelson, Donald Nephew, John Newkirk, William O'Dea, Howard Olson, Richard Ostrem, James Owens, Inger Pederson, James Pennebaker, Walter Pensak, Robert Phipps, William Piper, Donald Pittelko, I.C. Plaza, Marvin Plunkett, Floyd Prater, Melvin Rabbitt, Douglas Ragsdale, Al Raiola, George Roe, Robert Rosenberg, Irvan Rustad, John Ruth, Paul Sanders, John Sarbach, Alvin Saxton, Roland Schomer, Oron Schuch, Carl Schultz, Robert Schultz, Harold Schwocho, Eldon Shomo, Paul Siler, Roy Smith, Ruben Stahl, C. Stewart, Wm. Stiffler, Phillip Storm, Robert Stower, John Streicher, Buford Swartwood, Robert Tafel, Louis Tangney, Ernest Taube, Lowell Ter Borch, John Thomas, Ronald Trabucco, Walker Treadway, Joshua Treat III, Robert Trevorah, Frank Van Poppelen, John Van Soest, Charles Vicory, John Ward, Chuck Washner, Harry Waugh, William Webb, Harry Weiss, Hal Wenick, B.F. Williams, Sherwood Williams, Loren Yates, and Frank Zehner.

Family members will be representing the following deceased members of Lion 4 at the next gathering in Williamsburg, Virginia: Herbert Banning, Edward Boyle, Mr. Daninger, Brayn Driggers, Thomas Hutchison, Bert Lancaster, Robert Riehm, Eugene Rushing, Arthur Schussler, Arnold Vann, Donald Williams, Edward Winikaitis, and Glen Zunke.

As we sit here today, a half century after World War II, the need remains to honor those brave men and women who secured our freedom. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we express our deepest gratitude to the members of Lion Four and all the units that helped keep America free; we shall never forget their sacrifices.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF REVEREND BOYD R. KIFER

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 22, 1998

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, my community is mourning the loss of one of its most active and involved citizens, Reverend Boyd R. Kifer. Boyd Kifer was born on December 13, 1925, in Muskogee, Oklahoma. As a child in Muskogee, he and his family were active in the Church of the Nazarene, which he was to serve for the greater part of his life. His father taught him the brick-laying trade, and he used this skill in the building of several churches in the years to come.

After graduation from what is now Southern Nazarene University, Rev. Kifer began his ministerial career in Pawnee, Oklahoma. Desiring further education, he moved his family to Kansas City, Missouri, to attend the Nazarene Theological Seminary, where he graduated in 1958. Rev. Kifer had a remarkable pastoral career. He served congregations in California for twenty years. In 1978 he embarked on two careers, continuing his ministry as interim pastor throughout southern California. He touched thousands of people, ministering to over eighty congregations during times of transition.

The second career Rev. Kifer embarked upon was as administrator of the congressional office of United States Congressman Glenn R. Anderson. It was in this capacity that I knew him and valued his positive impact on everyone he met. He served as an effective liaison between Congressman Anderson and the constituents and community leaders in the district. He was a familiar and respected figure at every public event in Long Beach. After the Congressman's retirement, Boyd continued to serve the Anderson family with joy and dedication.

His experience in the church and in the community prepared him to enjoy people. Boyd was compassionate, concerned, helpful, and humorous. Boyd will be greatly missed in our community. He is survived by two daughters, Kristie Kifer and Mindy Pengilly, both of northern California; two sisters, Dorothy Sayes of Oklahoma and Neva Bozeman of Colorado, and one brother, Gene Kifer of Texas, and a multitude of friends.

PRAISE FOR MR. GERRY CALABRESE WHO IS RETIRING AFTER 43 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF BERGEN COUN- TY, NEW JERSEY

HON. STEVE R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 22, 1998

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a legendary public servant in Bergen County, New Jersey, Mr. Gerry Calabrese. Through decades of service, Mr. Calabrese has distinguished himself as a gentleman who puts the welfare of the people of New Jersey above his own.

Gerry began his career in public service by fighting for the American cause of freedom in